

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE
PROGRAM**HON. NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because nearly 9 million children are in danger of losing health insurance.

The Children's Health Insurance Program has reduced the uninsured rate among children from 14 percent in 1997 to 5 percent, today.

Nearly 30,000 children from my state, California, stand to lose their healthcare coverage this winter because of Congress's failure to reauthorize this vital program.

Healthcare is a human right, and working-class families need affordable doctors for their kids. This is especially true for Latinos. More than half of Latino children have Medicaid or CHIP coverage.

Congress must act immediately to pass a five-year extension for CHIP funding.

Every day we delay, we give families another reason to worry—that their son or daughter will fall sick and they won't be able to afford a doctor. That ongoing care for a chronically ill child will become too expensive. That hospitals will close their doors to them.

It's time to stop playing politics and get to work on a bipartisan reauthorization for CHIP.

HONORING DIANE GLASSER

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Diane Glasser, a committed public servant in South Florida who passed away on October 10th at 89 years of age. Diane served for over 40 years as an activist, Broward School Board member, City Commissioner, and Vice Mayor of the City of Tamarac.

From her childhood and career in Brooklyn to her many years in South Florida, her passion for activism made an impact on everyone she met. She was never shy about urging others to fulfill their civic duty by voting, even when she wasn't on the ballot. And she was always encouraging of my efforts, working with me on many initiatives to strengthen the community.

In addition to holding elected office, Diane served on several boards, including the Senior Advisory Task Force and the Broward Human Rights Board. She selflessly used her voice to advocate for those whose voices she felt weren't adequately heard.

Diane also had unique experiences representing the State of Florida as a delegate to the past six Democratic National Conventions and as an elector in the 1996 and 2000 Electoral Colleges.

Our community has lost a leader whose service will always be appreciated and remembered. I am honored to have called Diane Glasser my friend.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LOU
PARDINI**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legendary career of Mr. Lou Pardini. Lou is a Grammy nominated keyboardist, vocalist, composer and Fresno, California native. For the last 8 years he has been a member of the legendary rock band Chicago. Lou has successfully worked alongside various high profile musicians throughout his career. He is a distinguished composer that has base fans all over the world.

Lou Pardini was born in Omaha, Nebraska and raised in Fresno. He attended local schools including my alma mater San Joaquin Memorial High School. Lou would go on to attend Fresno City College and California State University, Fresno. Eventually he enrolled at the renowned Berklee School of Music in Boston to follow in his favorite musician's footsteps. Lou met and married the love of his life Betsey and the two would eventually move to Los Angeles, where Lou could fully pursue his music career.

Lou's natural talent was apparent early on in his childhood. He could easily perform songs on the piano by ear. His parents took notice and enrolled him in private guitar and piano lessons when he was just five years old. As he grew older his taste in music progressed. Among his favorite artists were Stevie Wonder, Donny Hathaway, Marvin Gaye, Led Zepelin, Deep Purple, and Black Sabbath.

Lou is a remarkable multitasking artist. He is known for his work with Stevie Wonder, The Doobie Brothers, The Temptations, Elton John, Smokey Robinson, Earth, Wind and Fire, Patti Austin, Larry Carlton and many more. He has worked with artists in Rock/Pop, R&B, Jazz, Blues and Gospel genres.

Lou's biggest break came when his song "Just To See Her" was recorded by the legendary Smokey Robinson. The song won Smokey his first and only Grammy for "Best Rhythm and Blues Vocal". Lou has also recorded two solo albums which are fan favorites to this day.

In 2009, he got a call that would truly change his life. Following the departure of longtime member Bill Champlin, Lou was asked to join Chicago on a permanent basis. This was the culmination of a career marked by hard work and a true passion for his craft.

He continues to build his fan base around the world. As a member of Chicago, Lou tours the world, drawing sell-out crowds wherever they go. On April 8, 2016, Chicago was inducted into the 31st Rock and Roll Hall of Fame cementing their place in history.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask that you to join me in celebrating the career of Lou Pardini as he makes his homecoming to the city of Fresno. We are honored to have Chicago performing today at the Big Fresno Fair. I ask you to join me in wishing Lou and his family continued success and prosperity.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LESTER
MANDELL**HON. STEPHANIE N. MURPHY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Lester Mandell, who transformed countless communities in central Florida through his work as a builder and transformed countless lives through his generosity as a philanthropist. Lester passed away recently at the age of 96, leaving behind a large and loving family, but his legacy will live on.

Born in a hardscrabble Brooklyn neighborhood, and a veteran of World War II, Lester did not graduate from college. However, neither his lack of formal education nor the anti-Semitism he frequently faced could stop Lester from achieving his professional goals, because they were no match for his talent, tenacity and toughness. Lester's life was a quintessentially American story of success earned through hard, disciplined, joyful work.

As one of Lester's grandsons said about his grandfather: "He believed that, if you did things the right way, you would get the right result." This is the essence of character.

Lester was a master builder, in both the literal and figurative sense. The homes, neighborhoods, and public parks he developed throughout central Florida over the course of many decades are his most visible legacy.

Lester also built bonds of a more intangible nature. He donated generously to many causes he cared about, from scholarships for inner-city children to support for the Jewish community he loved so much. Lester often donated anonymously and rarely spoke about his donations, even to his own family.

As his grandson recounts, Lester was a serious man who did serious work, but he did not take himself too seriously. He had a sense of humor and light-heartedness that disarmed friend and stranger alike.

Lester's greatest legacy, of course, is his family. He leaves behind his wife and partner for life, Sonia. They were married for 70 years. Sonia and Lester had four children, eight grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

I know they miss Lester. But I hope their loss is eased by the knowledge that Lester was a great man and, even more importantly, a good man.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LOCAL
SOUTH FLORIDA ARTIST, XA-
VIER CORTADA**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a constituent and local South Florida artist, Xavier Cortada, and congratulate him on his inaugural art exhibit titled "Florida Is" at the Hibiscus Gallery at Pinecrest Gardens.

Throughout the years, Xavier's passion has been to generate awareness for our environment and global climate change through his art work.

His work is included at my alma mater, Florida International University, where he serves as Artist-in-Residence.